

**RRH Task Force Minutes
July 16, 2015**

Introductions & Updates

- Attendees introduce themselves --
 - Mary Perdu (Family Assistance Ministries), Jim Womack (Pathways of Hope), Jessica Bruce (Colette's Children's Home), Dana Fagen (Volunteers of America), Madelynn Montoya (Families Forward), Alexandra Leggitt (Families Forward), Toia Sandoval (Families Forward), Elizabeth Andrade (Families Forward), Kathy Tillotson (Build Futures), Zulima Pelayo (211OC), Rocio Calderon (Project Hope Alliance), Diana Rozendaal (Illumination Foundation), Sarah Jones (Mercy House), Kiana Porter (WTLC), Tamika Hye (SPIN), LaShawn Hye (Project Hope Alliance)
- Families Forward is executing their HUD grant and will be serving 50 additional families
- Families Forward will be providing and updated list of Affordable Housing
- Volunteers of America has funding for Rapid Rehousing and Homeless Prevention for Veteran families
- Project Hope Alliance currently has a single mother with back issues and currently employed looking for housing (Families Forward suggested sending them client's information)

Discussion

- 211OC informed group that The Written Standards Working Paper was sent to their consultants in regards to suggestions that were made during the last RRH Task Force meeting and shared that the majority of the suggestions were in line with HUD guidelines and will be implemented in The Written Standards Working Paper.
 - The only exception was Standard #2: Rental Assistance which could not be changed. The short-term and medium-term were kept in the Standard which emphasize the goal of RRH rental assistance which is short and medium term rental assistance.
 - Families Forward provided a copy of suggestions made to The Written Standard Working Paper and the responses that were given to those suggestions.
- Group reviewed 2015 Homeless Point-in-Time Count and Survey and went over numbers that were provided in the count.
 - A discussion about the decrease in the number of sheltered homeless people in Orange County may affect the number of beds currently being provided
 - Elizabeth shared that this has resulted in a loss of Transitional Housing beds at Families Forward.
 - Sarah shared that this has resulted in a loss of 21 beds at Mercy House.
- Elizabeth discussed the need for a geographic map of RRH programs and landlords within those areas by city.

- Group discussed the need for an updated list of Rapid Rehousing agencies to include standard categories such as singles, families, etc.
 - Jessica from Colette's Children's Home will have her volunteers work on making the suggested updates to the Rapid Rehousing Agency list.
- Group would like to extend an invitation to all agencies who are doing Rapid Rehousing but are not currently attending the Task Force meetings an opportunity to join. Anyone with contacts please send the information to Madelynn at Families Forward.
- Group enquired about updates from the Ad Hoc Committee on Rapid Rehousing
 - Brenyale from United Way shared that Max Gardner is continuing to review the minutes of the RRH Task Force and is continuing to complete assessments.
 - A survey will be sent out to providers to assess challenges faced with each agencies' RRH program.
- Kathy from Build Future brought an article about Retooling the Homeless Crisis Response System and voiced her concerns that RRH needs to be treated as a crisis. She also encouraged agencies to work with other funding streams and collaborate with Employment and Mental Health agencies.
 - After reading the article, the group determined that many agencies are already implementing the strategies that were brought up in the article as well as being addressed at the Coordinated Entry meetings.
 - LaShawn from Project Hope Alliance emphasized a need for collaboration with Mental health as well as other agencies in the community by getting involved in each other's missions.
 - The group agreed on a need for strengthening of the CoC, advocacy and a common message.
- Madelynn at Families Forward discussed addressing some key issues with RRH such as to find landlord who will be willing to work with clients and how to approach them.
 - Madelynn shared upcoming 4th Annual Landlord Appreciation Luncheon for current and former landlords and stated that Families Forward view this as a great opportunity to continue to build partnerships.
 - Group discussed the possibility of having a Landlord Appreciation Luncheon at the County level and making this a goal to work on collaboratively next year.
- Discussion about upcoming OC Partnership with UCI Summit
 - Summit will be help in October. No one knew of date as of now.
- Dana from Volunteers of America stated that the Task Force should have an Agency Spotlight at each meeting
 - Task Force agreed that hosting agency will be in the spotlight beginning at the September 17, 2015 meeting.
- Next meeting will be on September 17, 2015 hosted by Project Hope Alliance.